

SOME INTERESTING CICADELLID PAPERS.

BY CHRIS. E. OLSEN, West Nyack, N. Y.

In receiving a lot of miscellaneous papers on Homoptera, I chanced to run across a few pamphlets on *Cicadellidae* which were interesting in various ways. They had one peculiarity in common and that was they were all published several years previous to 1918, but not listed in the Catalogue by Van Duzee which appeared in print then. Some of these papers did not come within the scope of this splendid work which, of course, must have a limit of papers to catalogue, others were perhaps accidentally overlooked. This may be expected when considering the tremendous task of compiling such a volume.

It may be advisable and of some use to briefly describe and comment on these few papers, since it appears that workers are apt to take for granted that all papers previous to 1918 are generally known, unless they stumble on these as I did. Although the papers are not important enough to have any effect on the taxonomic standing of the cicadellid nomenclature, yet they have some interesting features, which, perhaps, some workers would want to consult at some time or other. At least all cicadellidists should know that they exist. Reporting on these in a chronological order they are as follows:

Bruner, Lawrence.—*Annual Report of Nebraska State Board of Agriculture, 1899. Report of the Entomologist.*—A preliminary report of the insects affecting native grasses on our prairies and in meadows. A short discussion on the economics of the leafhoppers in general mentioning several important species. As a taxonomic paper this is worthless. It is beautifully illustrated on rather poor quality paper with sixteen plates borrowed from papers that are out of print and exceedingly hard to secure. Seven plates are borrowed from *Studies of the Life Histories of Grass-feeding Jassoidea*, by Osborn and Ball, Iowa Agri. College Exp. Sta. Bul. 34. 1897, and six from *Studies of North American Jassoidea*, Osborn and Ball, Dav. Acad. Nat. Sci., VII, 1897. These thirteen plates picture forty-five grass-feeding Cicadellidae and are interesting from this point of view. (The remaining three plates do not deal with Cicadellidae.) The various species illustrated are not listed nor is there any reference made to these anywhere in the paper.

Felt, E. P.—*Insect Types in New York State Museum*, N. Y. St. Mus. Bull. 141, July 15, 1910. Pp. 119–122.—In this paper are listed all the insect types in the New York State Museum at Albany, to its date (1910). Sixty-three of the species mentioned, or more than one-third of the entire list, are Homoptera. Not a single Heteropteron is listed. The family Cicadellidae is represented out of this number by thirty species. Out of the sixty-three species, five were described by Osborn, the remaining fifty-eight were described by Fitch. Most of the Fitch types are of extremely common species. This paper may not be of interest enough to be compiled with a list of species in a catalogue, but as a whole it is very serviceable in that it gives you at a glance the complete list of the insect types that were to be found in this institution at that time. (Although no author is assigned, Dr. E. P. Felt was then State Entomologist, and must, therefore, assume responsibility for this paper.)

Young, D. B.—*Additional List of Adirondack Insects, Report of the State Entomologist*, 1909, N. Y. St. Mus. Bul. 141, July 15, 1910. Pp. 123–125.—A short paper by Mr. Young on insects collected by him on a vacation trip at Speculator, N. Y., which place is located about Lake Pleasant. He mentions of being particularly impressed with the large representation of Hemiptera in the collected material. About half of all the species captured were Hemiptera. Identifications were made by Van Duzee. Thirty-one species out of sixty-seven were new reports for Adirondack Hemiptera. Twenty-seven species were Cicadellids. The list is annotated by a number of interesting footnotes. It is of interest and importance to those studying distribution of insects. He mentions several names that are not common.

Crumb, S. E.—“*The Jassoidea of Kansas*,” Trans. Kans. Acad. of Sci., XXIV, 1911. Pp. 232–238.—A list of forty-five genera, one hundred sixty-eight species very neatly gotten up, for the most part giving definite localities, dates and in many instances mentioning some plants in connection with the capture. It gives full credit to collectors where the collectors are known. Nearly all the material was identified by Dr. E. D. Ball. The list includes material collected by F. F. Crèvecoeur, Warren Knaus, S. E. Crumb (author) and in Kansas University collection.

In checking up the list of species, it was found that sixteen specific names in this little paper were not accounted for in the recent Kansas list of cicadellids. Besides this, a considerable

number of notes on distribution, plant association and habits of the insects with which Crumb's paper was liberally annotated, were left out. Crumb's little list may well be considered quite a good *Preliminary list of Cicadellidae of Kansas*. It is unfortunate that it was not given this credit.

Crumb, S. E.—“*A Partial Key to the Genera of North American Jassoidae*,” *Trans. Kans. Acad. Sci.*, XXV, 1912.—Key to the families and Genera of Jassoidae or Cicadellidae of North America excluding Mexico. Bases his study on the work of Ashmead, 1889; Van Duzee, 1889–1892; Edwards (British), Woodworth, 1889; Baker, 1892; Gillette, 1898; Ball, 1901; Osborn, 1905. Does not treat Athysaninae, Acocephalidae and Typhlocybidae. This paper may not be very useful to-day but a reference to its existence should be found somewhere.

NEW LONG ISLAND LEPIDOPTERA RECORDS FROM A WHITE CEDAR SWAMP.

At present only two stations for White Cedar, *Chamaecyparis thyoides*, are known to the writer on Long Island—one at Merrick on the south shore and another fifty miles east at Riverhead, facing Peconic Bay on the north shore.

The Merrick station, formerly very extensive and containing many trees in excess of one foot in diameter, has now been destroyed, excepting a small portion at the head of the swamp which is privately owned. No intensive collecting has been done in this region.

The Riverhead station has long been known to entomologists including Wm. T. Davis, Henry Bird, H. C. Hockett and others, but it is difficult of access and serious collecting has been postponed from year to year. In its original extent this swamp comprised a hundred or more acres of which less than the lower half has been dammed off and converted into a cranberry bog, while the upper part, through the raising of the water level, has been transformed into a shallow lagoon, luxuriant in its growth of water-lilies, pickerel weed, sedges and other aquatic vegetation.

Innumerable submerged cedar stumps indicate that this tree at one time covered all of the inundated parts of the region. The cedars living to-day are rather small, not exceeding six inches in diameter and restricted to small islands and peninsulas near the